

Approved For Release 2005/12/24 : CIA-RDP79R00904A001400020018-8

29 April 1968

Executive Registry

68. 2063

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Here is the memorandum I mentioned on Friday. It is pretty generally agreed to by the Board [redacted] though each member would probably like to tinker with it here and there. Therefore I am leaving it as a Staff Memorandum.

25X1

The subject is controversial, and this piece was inspired in part by the author's reaction to a document of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations [redacted]

X1

I have contemplated sending this to various persons, with a buckslip explaining it. Included on this list were Covey Oliver, William Bowdler (White House Staff), Sol Linowitz, and Joseph Barr. But perhaps you would rather send it yourself; or perhaps not have it sent at all.

25X1

ABBOT SMITH  
Director

Attachment  
Approved For Release 2005/12/24 : CIA-RDP79R00904A001400020018-8  
cc: DDCI and DD/I

over

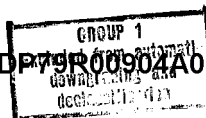
Chmn BNE

Leave this into  
a memo from you to  
me, then write the  
draft of covering letter  
which I can sign.  
I want to send this to

Ratzelbach  
Oliver Coates  
Boudin, Wm  
Postner, Wm  
Linowity  
Nitzge  
Wamke

W

APR 29 12 56 PM '68



Suggested Buckslip

SUBJECT: Attached Memorandum, "The Political Role of the  
Military in Latin America"

Here is a memorandum which was recently discussed and forwarded to me by the Board of National Estimates, not with complete agreement on every point but as a possible help to updating our views of a somewhat controversial subject. I pass it on in the same spirit.

The memorandum argues that in recent years the military establishments of Latin America have been undergoing more political and social change than is generally recognized. It develops the thesis that questions of military versus civilian control of Latin governments have risen in such a variety of situations, with such widely varying motives and performance on the part of both military and civilian elements, and with such a variety of consequences, that it is no longer useful to make broad generalizations as to the nature and value of the military's political role.

R. H.  
Director